

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-21 are pending in the present application. Claim 8 has been amended. Claims 1, 8, and 13 are independent claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has allowed claims 1-5, 7, and 12-21.

Interview on April 10, 2007

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Lao Lun-See for taking the time to discuss the present application with Applicants' representative, Jason Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305), during the personal interview conducted on April 10, 2007.

Claims Discussed: Claim 8.

Prior Art Discussed: Japanese Patent Publication No. JP11-186924 to Tsuji et al. (hereafter "Tsuji '924").

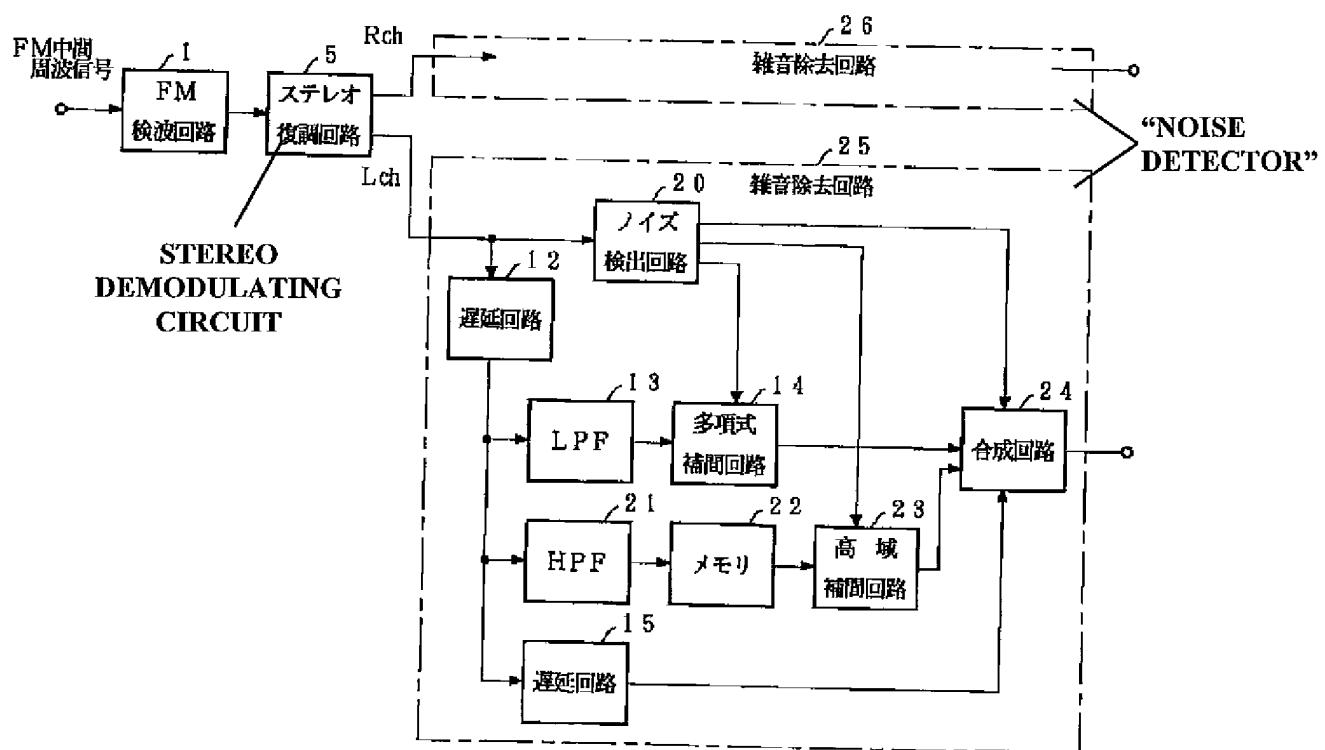
General Results: The examiner suggested amending the claim to more clearly indicate that the claimed noise detection occurs between the FM demodulator and audio signal demodulator in order to overcome the rejection based on Tsuji '924.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 8-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuji '924. This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 8 has been amended to recite, "a noise detector configured to receive the demodulation signal communicated between the first demodulator and the audio signal demodulator." As acknowledged by the Examiner during the April 10, 2007 interview, Tsuji

'924 does not disclose such a noise detector. Specifically, the Examiner relies on the combination of noise limiters 25 and 26 in Tsuji '924 for the claimed noise detector. However, as shown in Fig. 10 (annotated) of Tsuji '924 provided below, the noise detector in Tsuji '924 is configured to receive the signal already processed by both FM detector 1 and stereo demodulating circuit 5.



At least for the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Tsuji '924 does not disclose every claimed feature. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is in condition for allowance, and claims 9-11 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 8. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination.

Should the Examiner believe that any outstanding matters remain in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason W. Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305) at the telephone number of the undersigned to discuss the present application in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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